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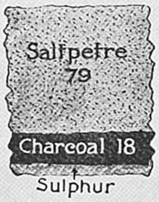
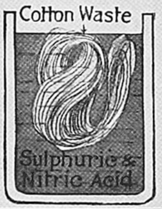
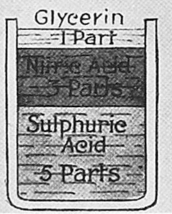
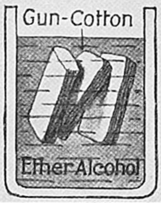
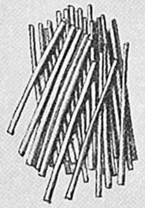
HIGH EXPLOSIVES—WHAT THE TERM MEANS

Material	Name	Nature	Ingredients, &c.	Where and How Used
	**GUNPOWDER**	*Propellant*	Mixture of saltpetre, charcoal, and sulphur in the proportion of 79, 18, and 3.	Used all over the world for centuries, and by the British since the Battle of Crécy, but now practically abandoned as a propellant or explosive, being used chiefly as a primer with various charges.
	**GUN-COTTON**	*High explosive*	Cotton waste, carefully cleaned, combed, and dried, soaked in 1 part nitric acid to 3 parts sulphuric acid; afterwards dried and pressed into cakes.	Employed in the Navy—both wet and dry; the former (with 30 per cent. of water added), being much safer to handle, is used in war-heads of torpedoes.
 Glycerin 1 Part Nitric Acid 3 Parts Sulphuric Acid 5 Parts	**NITRO-GLYCERINE**	*High explosive*	Glycerine 1 part, nitric acid 3 parts, sulphuric acid 5 parts. A pale yellow liquid (colourless if quite pure).	Not used as an explosive by itself, but usually mixed with kieselguhr to form dynamite or with gun-cotton to form blasting gelatine.
	**SMOKELESS POWDER**	*Propellant*	Gun-cotton soaked in ether alcohol	Generally employed on the Continent.
	**CORDITE** (known as M.D.)	*Propellant*	30 per cent. nitro-glycerine and 65 per cent. gun-cotton mixed in the presence of acetone, the resultant dough then pressed through a perforated plate and issuing in the form of sticks, which are cut to suitable lengths to form the various charges. Made in many varieties from ·01 in. to ½ in. for width of strand. Is not affected by damp.	The propellant principally used by the British Army and Navy for charges for guns and small arms.
 All these take the form of a crystalline solid of a yellowish colour	**LYDDITE**	*High explosive*	A form of picric acid, consisting of carbolic acid combined with nitric acid.	Generally used in the British services for bursting charge for shells, etc.
	MELINITE	*High explosive*	Exact composition not made known, but certainly differing very little from lyddite.	Used in the French service for the same purposes as lyddite is in the British.
	TRINITRO-TOLUENE (tri-nitro-toluene) known as T.N.T. or tritol	*High explosive*	Of aromatic nitro-carbon origin, being a variation of toluene, a substance obtained by the distillation of coal tar.	Used by Germany, Russia, Italy, and other countries (in preference to lyddite and melinite), and for bombs in the British services.
	TETRANITRO-ANILINE (tetra-nitro-aniline)	*High explosive*	Also of nitro-carbon origin—a variation of aniline, another substance obtained by distillation of coal tar. (Both toluene and aniline are much used in the manufacture of dyes and scents.)	These are in the experimental stage, but it is quite possible that one or the other may supersede T.N.T.
	TETRANITRO-METHYLANILINE (tetra-nitro-methyl-aniline) shortened to "tetryl"	*High explosive*	Another of the same class and origin The production of the new "coal explosives" is closely connected with the manufacture of benzole, or motor fuel, from coal, an industry which has been highly developed in Germany	